

# all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



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[www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org)

## **FCA monthly meeting**

Wednesday, November 9, 7 pm

## **Fair Golds business meeting**

Thursday, November 3, noon  
FCC

## **Daylight saving time ends**

Sunday, November 6, 2 am

## **MOMS Club meeting**

Wednesday, November 9, 4 pm  
FCC

## **Fairlington Diners**

Monday, November 14, 6:30 pm  
Ramparts half-price burger night  
Alexandria

## **Fair Golds program**

Thursday, November 17, noon  
FCC

## **Invasive plant pull**

Saturday, November 19, 9 am – noon  
32nd Road S.

## **Fairlington Diners**

Saturday, November 19, 12:30 pm  
L'Auberge Chez Francois  
Great Falls

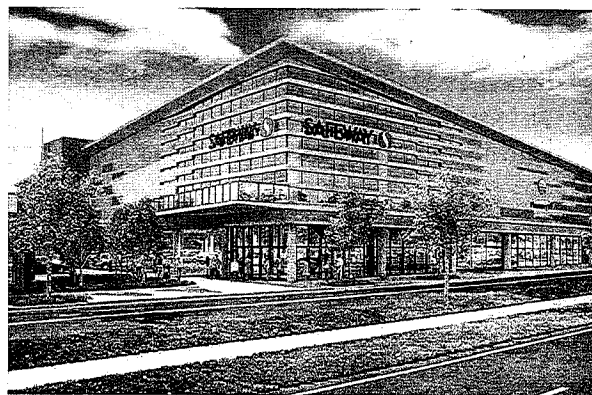
## **Book Group**

Tuesday, November 22, 7:30 pm  
North Fairlington CC

See Neighborhood News on pages 23–24 and related articles for details about calendar events.

## **Safeway redevelopment plans move forward**

Safeway, Inc. has requested a special use permit from the City of Alexandria to redevelop the grocery store on King Street at Bradlee. In public meetings this year, most comments showed that neighbors welcomed the prospect of a shiny, new Safeway. Plans call for the existing 41,000+ square foot store and 199 surface parking spaces to be demolished and replaced by a new Lifestyle-format



*The designer's rendering of the King Street service road façade of the new Safeway.*

Safeway—a two-story 61,000+ square foot stand-alone retail building, with 228 parking spaces (125 spaces would be covered by the store and the rest would be surface spots screened from view). The proposed design on the triangular site puts the parking at grade (ground level) with the actual store located on a second level above the parking. Oversized elevators would carry customers with their carts to/from ground level parking and the store above. In addition, there would be an up-escalator, a down-escalator, and a down cart-conveyor. The design plan calls for creating a “new pedestrian realm,” with wide sidewalks and a landscaped plaza for outdoor seating, where, the store suggests, patrons could dine, have a cup of coffee, or meet with friends.

From the company's concept plan documents: “The new Safeway will include such amenities as: Starbucks coffee bar; expanded produce and floral departments; hearth oven for baking bread along with a wide variety of specialty desserts; expanded service meat and service seafood; gourmet cheese department; expanded deli with prepared foods; expanded organic produce department; extensive beer and wine department with a wine steward; and in-store café seating. The new store will also include a pharmacy, an extensive health and beauty aids department, and a Bergmann's drycleaner.”

As yet, there is no published time line for the proposed renovation. For more information, including images of Lifestyle-format stores and links to public meeting notes and the developer's documents, go online to the Alexandria Web site, [www.alexandriava.gov](http://www.alexandriava.gov), and search Lifestyle Safeway or enter the link, <http://alexandriava.gov/planning/info/default.aspx?id=49466>.

# Winter weather can trigger water problems



*The intersection of Walter Reed and Arlington Mill on October 11, where WSS emergency crews worked to repair a broken water main. Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.*

In the months ahead, as colder weather and freezing temperatures arrive, we can predict that, at times, there will be episodes of low water pressure or water shut-offs due to water main breaks or leaks and the ensuing repairs. Even during the balmy weather of early October, that was the case when water service in Fairlington and Shirlington was disrupted by a major water main break at Walter Reed and Arlington Mill Drives. It was the Tuesday after Columbus Day: Abingdon ES students got an unexpected extension of the school-closing holiday (and parents scrambled to make arrangements).

Emergency crews from the Department of Environmental Services, Water/Sewer/Streets Bureau worked through the day to locate a rare-sized pipe and then install the new pipe and valve. As they reopened the valves, however, another portion of the pipe broke. Water in the area was again shut off, so that the team could reassess the situation and initiate new repairs. Throughout the day, parts of Fairlington experienced low to no water pressure, but WSS opened an interconnection valve with Alexandria to help maintain some water pressure in the area. They confirmed that businesses in Shirlington had water service, but the Animal Welfare League of Arlington was without water. Repairs continued through the overnight hours and full service was restored the next day.

With approximately 485 miles of water lines and 465 miles of sewer pipes to monitor, WSS welcomes reports from residents about water problems. If you have concerns or questions about your water service or if you spot a leak or perceive some abnormality in the system, notify WSS immediately by calling the 24-hour water emergency hotline, 703-228-6555. For more information, go online to the county Web site, [www.arlingtonva.us](http://www.arlingtonva.us), and search "water emergency" to access the WSS water emergency page.

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## Police report uptick in solicitors going door to door

Captain Brett Butler, commander of the Third District, wants to highlight an increase locally in the activity of door-to-door solicitors. One named individual, Keith Franklin, was noted for repeated violations, including assault and burglary in the past, and, recently, trespassing, destruction of property, and being drunk in public. Captain Butler acknowledges that people want to show compassion by helping their fellow man, but he also cautions against letting your better nature compromise your security. "Do not make yourself or family members victims by allowing individuals such as Franklin to gain access to your homes. Do not encourage them to stay in your neighborhood by giving them jobs to do around the yard."

Police recommend you do call the police non-emergency number (703-558-2222) to report any suspicious activity, and call when solicitors come to your door, so that police can check them out and know who is walking around the neighborhood.

## New Safeway's traffic impact

A traffic study conducted by Alexandria this summer, to accompany consideration of Safeway's request to build a new store at Bradlee (*see page one*), confirmed what many neighbors already know: If you want to avoid crowds at Safeway, stay away on Saturday afternoon. The study determined that the existing Safeway store generates approximately 150 trips during the morning peak hour, 438 trips during the afternoon peak hour, and 452 trips during the Saturday peak hour. The additional square footage planned for the store expansion is primarily intended to bring the store up to market standards rather than to increase trips to the store. Even so, using trip-generation rates based on square footage, the traffic study assumes approximately 55 new trips during the morning peak hour, 161 new trips during the afternoon peak hour, and 166 new trips during the Saturday peak hour.